AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method, performed by a computer system having a

network of terminals, of transferring funds from a first payment cardholder at a first merchant terminal to a second payment cardholder at a second merchant terminal, said method comprising

de la second payment carantotaes de a second incremant <u>communa</u>, said increso comprision

the steps of:

receiving an indication from said first cardholder at said first merchant terminal that a

transfer of funds is required to said second cardholder;

generating a first payment card transaction at a networked the first merchant terminal

between said first merchant and said first cardholder, wherein said first payment card transaction

is a first immediate transfer, debiting said funds from said first cardholder and crediting said

funds to said first merchant;

generating a second payment card transaction at a networked the second merchant

terminal between said second merchant and said second cardholder, wherein said second

payment card transaction is a second immediate transfer, debiting said funds from said second

merchant and crediting said funds to said second cardholder, and

communicating said first and second payment card transactions to a host across said

network for processing payments corresponding to the first and second payment card

transactions, thereby debiting said first merchant and crediting said second merchant.

(Original) A method according to claim 1, comprising the initial step of obtaining

authorization for the first payment card transaction prior to generating the first payment card

transaction.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the indication identifies the

payment card details of the first cardholder or the payment card details of the second cardholder.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the indication contains an

identifier for the first cardholder or the second cardholder and whereby the identifier may be used to obtain the card details of the first or second payment cardholder from a database of

- 2 -

cardholders and their associated identifiers.

5. (Currently Amended)A method according to any preceding claim 1, wherein

positive or negative amounts associated with the value of funds to be transferred may be equal to

the value of funds to be transferred or may include a service fee applied to the value of funds to

be transferred.

(Currently Amended) A method according to any preceding claim 1, wherein the

currency of the first payment card transaction is the currency of the first cardholder's payment

card account and the second payment card transaction is conducted in the currency of the second cardholder's payment card account in circumstances where the currencies of the first and second

cardholders' payment card accounts are different.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to any preceding claim 1, wherein the

step of receiving an indication from the first cardholder is performed over a computer network.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to any preceding claim 1, wherein the

step of receiving an indication from the first cardholder is performed over a telephone.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to any preceding claim 1, wherein the

first merchant terminal and second merchant terminal are the same.

A method according to claim 1, wherein the first merchant and second merchant

11. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 10, wherein the first merchant

terminal is resident in a country of the first cardholder and the second merchant terminal is

located in a country of the second cardholder.

12. (Currently Amended) A method according to any preceding claim 3, further

comprising the step of identifying a suitable second merchant from the details of the second

- 3 -

cardholder.

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

are related but not the same

300 South Wacker Drive Chicago, Illinois 60606 13. (Currently Amended) A method according to any preceding claim 3, further

comprising the step of identifying a suitable first merchant from the card details of the first

cardholder

(Currently Amended) A method according to any preceding claim 1, comprising

the step of generating a third payment card transaction between a first merchant and a third

cardholder wherein the third cardholder and second merchant are associated accounts of the

same entity, suitably co-resident in a particular country.

15. (Currently Amended) A system for transferring funds in a network of terminals

from a first payment cardholder at a first merchant terminal to a second payment cardholder at a

second merchant terminal, comprising:

a network of terminals:

means for receiving an indication from said first cardholder at said first merchant

terminal that a transfer of funds is required to said second cardholder,

means for generating a first payment card transaction at a networked the first merchant

terminal between said first merchant and said first cardholder, wherein said first payment card

transaction is a first immediate transfer, debiting said funds from said first cardholder and

crediting said funds to said first merchant;

means for generating a second payment card transaction at a networked the second

merchant terminal between said second merchant and said second cardholder, wherein said

second payment card transaction is a second immediate transfer, debiting said funds from said

second merchant and crediting said funds to said second cardholder; and

means for communicating said first and second payment card transactions to a host across

said network for processing payments corresponding to the first and second payment card

transactions, thereby debiting said first merchant and crediting said second merchant.

16 (Original) A system according to claim 15, comprising means for obtaining

authorization for the payment card transaction between the first merchant and the first cardholder

- 4 -

prior to generating the first payment card transaction.

17. (Original) A system according to claim 15 further comprising a database of

cardholder information, where individual records in the database contain details of cardholders and

an associated identifier.

18. (Original) A system according to claim 17, wherein the system is adapted to

extract cardholders details from the database from identifiers provided to generate the first and/or

second transaction.

19. (Original) A system according to claim 15, wherein the system is adapted to

perform dynamic currency conversion on the first and/or second transactions.

20. (Original) A system according to claim 15, wherein the system is adapted to

receive indications from the cardholder over a computer network.

21. (Original) A system according to claim 15, wherein the system is adapted to

receive an indication from the first cardholder over a telephone.

22. (Original) A system according to claim 15, wherein the system comprises a

database associating card numbers or ranges of card numbers to at least one merchant.

23. (Original) A system according to claim 22, wherein the system is adapted to

determine an appropriate merchant for use in the first transaction by comparison of the card details

of the first cardholder with entries in the database

24. (Original) A system according to claim 22, wherein the system is adapted to

determine an appropriate merchant for use in the second transaction by comparison of the card

- 5 -

details of the second cardholder with entries in the database.

(Canceled)

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

300 South Wacker Drive Chicago, Illinois 60606 (Original) A computer readable medium having stored therein instructions for

causing a computer system to perform the method according to claim 1.

2.7 (Currently Amended) A method, performed by a computer system having a

network of terminals, of transferring funds from a first payment cardholder at a first merchant terminal to a second payment cardholder at a second merchant terminal, said method comprising the

steps of:

receiving an indication from said first cardholder at said first merchant terminal that a

transfer of funds is required to said second cardholder;

generating a first payment card transaction at a networked the first merchant terminal

between said first merchant and said first cardholder, wherein said first payment card transaction is a first immediate transfer, debiting said funds from said first cardholder and crediting said

funds to said first merchant; and

generating a second payment transaction between said second merchant terminal and said

second cardholder, wherein said second payment transaction is a cheque, debiting said funds from said second merchant and crediting said funds to said second cardholder.

(Currently Amended) A system for transferring funds from a first payment

cardholder at a first merchant terminal to a second payment cardholder at a second merchant

terminal, comprising:

28

a network of terminals:

means for receiving an indication from said first cardholder at said first merchant

terminal that a transfer of funds is required to said second cardholder;

means for generating a first payment card transaction at a networked the first merchant terminal between said first merchant and said first cardholder, wherein said first payment card

transaction is a first immediate transfer, debiting said funds from said first cardholder and

crediting said funds to said first merchant; and

means for generating a second payment transaction between said second merchant

terminal and said second cardholder, wherein said second payment transaction is a cheque.

- 6 -

debiting said funds from said second merchant and crediting said funds to said second

cardholder.

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

29. (Canceled)

30. (New) A system according to claim 15, wherein the first merchant terminal and second merchant terminal are the same.

Chicago, Illinois 60606 Telephone: (312) 913-0001 Facsimile: (312) 913-0002